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April 10, 1985

Senator William Cohen  
Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C.

Dear SenatorCohen:

It was several months ago when I first heard of Raoul Wallenburg and the work he did to save Hungarian Jews during WWII. I remember thinking at the time, how could people have remained silent about his abduction after all he had done.

I'm sure the recent TV miniseries has prompted many Americans to write their representatives in Washington. I too feel compelled to do so. I believe that a worldwide outcry about this injustice may bring enough embarrassment and pressure on the Soviets (in light of recent efforts at detente and a favorable world impression) that they might release Wallenburg if he has not been killed. I believe that a man of his determination, strength, and cunning would have more than most, the necessary will to survive.

I think it is an ironic tragedy that the efforts of this one man saved over 100,000 lives, yet all the political, military, and financial power of all the free countries of the world could not set this ONE man free.

If knowing what we do, we do not make every effort to secure his release or concrete proof of his death and the facts surrounding it, then we are as guilty as all the people during WWII who knew what was happening around them but silently looked the other way.

As my representative in Washington I ask you to pressure Reagan to include the case of Wallenburg as an agenda item for the upcoming summit with the Soviets. Also, to take a leadership role in the Senate and wherever else possible to speak out on this issue, and to garner the support necessary to bring about an acceptable Soviet response.

I believe this is not just a Swedish issue, but a human issue. I also believe that for any young person watching the miniseries, world inaction following his abduction could lead them to cynicism or doubts about personal sacrifice and commitment to others. Can the world afford that? Will there be future Raouls willing to help those in need?

Thank You for considering my thoughts.

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Sincerely,